

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

RM-9335

From: "John Tierney" <base53@gte.net>
To: A4.A4 (PSD)
Date: 8/16/98 10:21pm
Subject: Can you help me?

Hello,

I have a problem. My mother lives in Arkansas and has Primestar for several years. She has always gotten the networks for free because she has never been able to receive networks over a rooftop antenna. Every time she goes on "vacation status" and is reconnected to her programming, she doesn't get the networks back. I have to recall Primestar and let them know and it should be reconnected for free.

This year she was reconnected after the usual hassles, and on my first bill (I pay for the service) they were billing me for the networks. I called them and reminded them that this is given free as she cannot receive normal service via antenna (which was verified by Primestar technician originally). I was told they would credit me and our conversation ended. I was called shortly by my mother and she said her networks were removed. After calling back Primestar, I told them I wanted her to receive the networks, and a manager said that they were bundling that into a new package and I would be charged. I said I thought the law stated if a person couldn't receive service, it was granted free. She stated she had never heard of that and I would have to pay. I said OK (Until I was able to check that fact out), except that now she COULDN'T hook me (my mother) back up.

She said I would have to sign a waiver.

Who is right, and what does the FCC say about this? I thought the telecommunications act of 1996 spelled this out?

Thank You for taking time to answer my question.

Sincerely,

John Tierney
941-776-1830

My mother lives in Arkansas with a Protem, MO address and zip 65733
417-785-4749

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From: "John R. O'Reilly" <capto@media2.hypernet.com>
To: A4.A4 (PSD)
Date: 8/16/98 12:08pm
Subject: Concerning DBS Systems vs Local TV Programming

Rm 9335

I have just installed a new RCA DBS Satellite system. Upon signing up for service I was informed that I had to go through a review process before I could receive Network Programming over the satellite. This has me wondering exactly what is going on? This is an extra service for which I would pay an extra charge. The fact that I live in a fringe area or whether I live three miles from the TV transmitter should have absolutely NO consideration in the matter. What ever happened to the idea of promoting competition? If the local TV broadcaster wants my business then it's up to them to put programming on that I want to watch.

The geographic area I live in, the terrain plays havoc with TV signals. My next door neighbor (1/2 mile to the South of me) doesn't seem to have much problem receiving anything. With Gray's ridge between me and Bangor it all comes down to the weather conditions as to whether we have good reception or not. In some cases its just no reception and at other times it can be quite good. How can these companies use a ZIP code to tell whether I "qualify" for satellite broadcast of some far away station. Reception of an "acceptable quality signal" can literally vary from moment to moment. If I could receive the "Local" broadcaster all the time the way I would like to, why would I want to spend money to get the same thing? Let the Local Broadcaster and the Satellite companies compete. Let me spend MY money the I want.

Sincerely,

John R. O'Reilly
capto@media2.hypernet.com

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From: Darrell Boldt <drb22760@haaga.com>
To: A4.A4 (FCCINFO)
Date: 8/15/98 1:09pm
Subject: Echo IV and Directv

RM-9385

Dear FCC,

As Dish and Directv subscriber I'm concern about the States Alaska and Hawaii not getting service. First Echo IV had permission to move to the 119 slot. Now if Echo IV can still provide the same service at the 119 slot I feel it should be move to the 119 slot. And Echo 1 should be moved to the 148 slot. Not like it is now E*4 at 148 and E*1 still at 119.

With Directv launching another DBS4 satellite next year with your approval to the 101 slot. That satellite should also be required to provide service to Alaska and Hawaii.

Sisncerley

Darrell R. Boldt
5235 South 700 West Q4
Murray, Utah 84123
801-265-1812

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From: <KMHunter@aol.com>
To: A4.A4 (FCCINFO)
Date: 8/15/98 8:26pm
Subject: DirectTV programming

Chairpersons,

My programming to NBC and CBS was terminated today on Directv. I know local stations have the right to dispute me receiving programming other than theirs, but do I have no rights ? I thought the air waves were public domain. Do the local stations suddenly own them? Why should I be forced to watch their stations? Seems like they have a bigger voice in the government than the average Joe - what do you think? Thanks,

Ken Hunter
3965 Barna Ave.
Titusville, Fla.
32780

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From: Tom Thornton <tthornton@erols.com>
To: A4.A4 (FCCINFO)
Date: 8/15/98 9:10am
Subject: ALTERNATIVE TO CABLE

RM-9335

Cable prices in my community are constantly increasing. I believe the only way to fix this problem is to create a comparable alternative to my cable provider. As a consumer, I want a choice in cable providers. (DBS) is the only other viable alternative to cable, but with DBS I am unable to watch my local network channels or any of the 4 major networks.

I understand there is a legislation being introduced to change the current law. This letter is to let you know I support S. 1422, and I support giving DBS providers the ability to offer my local stations. A change in the law is important to me and the millions who feel as I do that we should have a choice.

Please as a governing body hear our voice to permit DBS providers a competitive alternative to cable.

Sincerely,

Tom Thornton

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From: <WVBudLight@aol.com>
To: A4.A4 (FCCINFO)
Date: 8/14/98 11:08pm
Subject: A letter sent to Senator Robert C. Byrd

RM-9335

Kenneth J. Varner

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Rt. 1 Box 134-D

AUG 17 1998

Jane Lew, WV 26378

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(304) 884-6769

Senator Robert Byrd:

I am sending an E-mail in regard to the recent FCC Regulations for Satellite Broadcasting, concerning "Primetime24" Channel Selections.

I am very disappointed, that in a time that Communism is supposedly dying, that it seems to grow within our Government. We have fought for many years to have Freedom, but yet OUR Government, seems to find ways to regulate and Tax everything that we use to have. Now its the AIRWAYS that is being regulated in the wrong direction.

I have subscribed to "DIRECTV," only to have a portion denied, not by ME, but by our Government. I feel, as I pay the Bill, then what does it matter? I am a hard working husband and father of two, and always have tried to be honest and patriotic. I am getting sick of the Governments "STRONG ARM" of my privilege. Whether I receive a Channel by antenna, should not matter whether I get it through Satellite. This is a Communistic Government telling me that I cannot order these Premium Channels. As long as I am flipping the Bill, it should not matter what channels I get. I don't even receive these "So-called" Channels that the Government says I do. I receive one, and it isn't the greatest. I think that it is Communistic, for a Government tell me what I should watch and what I shouldn't. How about the Government Regulating the PORN and other Disgusting CRIMES out there that is corrupting our Kids. That is what is wrong with our Government today. NO MORALS !!! The Government says we have freedom, but only to the extent that they will allow, and even then it is set up backwards with the laws that protect the guilty and punishes the innocent.

In closing, I would like you to know that I am a Proud American, but what has crept up in our Once Great Nation is a VIRUS.

Senator Byrd, I know that you are a very busy man, but if you should find time, please respond.

Thank you for your time,
Kenneth J. Varner

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